Government would take all steps necessary to fight militancy in Jammu and Kashmir, to counter anti-India propaganda, and would remain vigilant on the support, financial or material, extended from Pakistan or from any other outside quarters in sustenance of activities directed against the unity and integrity of the country. Government constantly endeavour to project to the international community the situation in Jammu and Kashmir in its true perspective.

Indo-Japan talks on expansion of Security Council

1299. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Japan held bilateral consultations on reforms and restructuring of the United Nations, including expansion of the Security Council;

(b) if so, the stand taken by India on this issue; and

(c) what were the results of these talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) India took the stand that the expansion of the Security Council should be in accordance with criteria to be agreed upon by consensus. Reform and expansion should be an integral part of a common package. It was neither feasible nor desirable to place arbitrary time limits on the restructuring exercise.

(c) India and Japan have decided to continue consultations with a view to carrying forward the restructuring exercise.

Discriminatory treaty to India by Amnesty International

1300. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report appeared in the Statesman, Delhi dated the 23rd February, 1995, captioned "Amnesty comes down hard on India, mollycoddles Pakistan";

(b) if so, what are the details of the matter;

(c) what further diplomatic initiatives, if any, have been taken by Government to prevent such discriminatory treatment to India by the Amnesty International?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Amnesty International from time to time brings out reports on different aspects of the human rights situations in various countries including India and Pakistan. Government's interaction with Amnesty International has been in keeping with its policy of transparency and dialogue. However, persisting distortions in Amnesty's methodology, and attitude to India as reflected in their reports, have raised a number of questions. The government of India has taken these up with Amenesty international and has also apprised the international community.

Captivation of Indian Fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy

1301. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that twenty-two fishermen who went into sea from Dhanushkodi on the 13th February, 1995 were taken into custody by Sri Lankan Navy; if so, the details of the incident;

(b) whether Government took up this matter with Sri Lankan Government; if so, the details thereof;

(c) what has been response of the Government of Sri Lanka;

(d) what steps are being taken to repatriate these fishermen and to get their fishing boats released.